

NSC BRIEFING

15 July 1954

INDOCHINA

I. Viet Minh pressure on French defense line increasing as elements of battle corps close in on shrinking perimeter.

A. Troops of the 304th Division, plus lesser elements, are harassing Hung Yen sector, on southern edge of defense line.

B. Elements of the 308th Division during past few days have made probing attacks in Luc Nam area, on northern edge.

C. [] 320th Division is planning operations in Haiduong section of Route 5, to cut Hanoi's lifeline to Haiphong.

II. [] possible enemy move to cut delta in two, thus isolating Hanoi and hastening its fall.

A. A large-scale attack, with Luc Nam and Hung Yen as jumping-off points, would probably be accompanied by move of 312th Division against northwestern perimeter, with Hanoi as objective.

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1. 312th Division has been probing Vinh Yen area, and its intelligence units are active along defense line north and west of Hanoi.

III. Meanwhile, Viet Minh apparently attempting strengthen its bargaining position in Annam.

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A. From 8 May to 8 July, known quantities include:
76 artillery pieces, 376 mortars, 90 bazookas,
6 multi-barreled rocket launchers, 206
machineguns, 1,800 sub-machineguns, and
large shipments of ammunition.

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NSC Briefing 15 July

Used by Mr Dukes

1. Indochina Military
2. Israeli - Arab relations

Not Used




2. Geneva Conference
3. Disruption of Soviet shipping*
4. Indonesia



6. Anti American trend in Saudi Arabia *

* Possible starters for next week's NSC Meeting

Another possible starter is The diversion of copper to The Soviet bloc depending on  memo.

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